

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR ACUPUNCTURE
MINUTES

Date: August 23, 2011

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Location: Poplar Conference Room
227 French Landing
Heritage Place MetroCenter
Nashville, TN 37243

Members Present: Jill Kelly, LAC
Serina Scott, LAC
Jane Abraham, ADS
Peggy Watson, LAC, Co Chairman

Member Absent: Mary Anne Johnson, Consumer, Chairman

Staff Present: Rosemarie Otto, Executive Director
Marsha Arnold, Unit Manager
Kyonzte Hughes-Toombs, OGC Attorney
David Hoffman, Administrator

The Chairperson Ms. Kelly declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m..

Approval of Minutes

After reviewing the minutes from the February 8, 2011 meeting as presented, Dr. Abraham made a motion to approve the minutes and Ms. Scott seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Office of General Counsel

As part of her report to the Committee, Ms. Kyonzte Hughes-Toombs provided a regulatory flexibility analysis relative to a proposed fee reduction. Ms. Scott made a motion to approve the statement as presented. Dr. Abraham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Abraham made a motion to conduct a rulemaking hearing to reduce the Committee's renewal fee at the next meeting on February 7, 2012. Ms. Scott seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Hughes-Toombs reported on the status of open cases in the Office of General Counsel. As of the date of the meeting, there were three open cases being process for prosecution. In response to the question from Dr. Abraham, Ms. Hughes-Toombs defined the dry needling technique as the use of a solid needle for therapy of muscle pain sometimes called intramuscular stimulation, where needles are inserted into trigger points throughout the body. The Physical Therapy statute is very broad, however, the Acupuncture statute is very narrow as far as who can practice acupuncture. Those professions who may use dry needling are Medical Doctors, Osteopathic Doctors, Registered nurses who are nationally certified, and licensed Acupuncturist. She advised that her research suggests that Acupuncturists are the only allied profession specifically authorized to use dry needling technique.

Manager's Report

Ms. Arnold, Unit Manager, reviewed the Manager's report with the members present. Ms. Arnold reported that between February 1, 2011 and July 31, 2011 the office had received 20 new applications and issued 11 new licenses, with one reinstatement. She reported that the total percentage of renewals online was 5 percent. She reported that the total number of active acupuncturists is 115 and active Acupuncture Detoxification Specialists is 13.

Dr. Abraham stated that Ms. Judi Harrick will conduct an Acupuncture Detoxification Specialist training seminar on October, 2011 in Memphis, TN.

Bureau Office

Ms. Otto, Executive Director, reported that the Committee's direct expenditures as of June 30, 2011 were \$5,051.56 and the revenues were \$38,118.25. It was likely that the Committee will add to last year's cumulative carryover which was \$38,178.76. A modest reduction in the Committee's renewal fees which had been previously authorized seemed to be further indicated by the preliminary fiscal year 2011 numbers.

Division of Investigations/Disciplinary Coordinator

Ms. Juanita Stone reported that there were four open complaints in the Office of Investigations. She requested that one Committee member assist the Office of General Counsel to review complaints. Ms. Kelly and Ms. Scott volunteered to provide the requested assistance.

File Review and Approval of Applications

Ms. Scott made a motion to approve the following list of new applications for licensure as presented and Dr. Abraham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Jessica Ann Berry, Jody L. Butler, Heather Colleen Edwards, Diane Kali Holmes, Lisa Michele Holt, Wayne Stander Knerr, Jodie Danielle Manross, Chandra Wattie Niwaz, Rebecca Anne Ransom, Heather Erin Reagan, Freda Kay Wiggs, Hayat Denise Golata Adler-Ruh (reinstatement) was approved.

Adjournment

Ms. Watson made a motion to adjourn. Dr. Abraham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Committee adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Ratified at the March 5, 2012 meeting.